IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuation Application of:)

MATENA, Vladimir)

Application No.: Not yet assigned)

Filed: November 20, 2000)

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS)
FOR RELIABLE DISK FENCING)
IN A MULTICOMPUTER)
SYSTEM)

Prior Application Data
Serial No. 09/023,074
Filed: February 13, 1998

Group Art Unit: 2785

Examiner: LE, Dieu-Minh Thai

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please cancel all amendments and remarks specified in the Preliminary

Amendment filed November 20, 2000 and prior to the examination of the above-

reference application, please amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 1 and add claims 14-26 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method for preventing access to a shared peripheral device by a

processor-based node in a multinode system, [including the steps of] comprising:

(1) storing at the peripheral device a first unique value representing a first

configuration of the multinode system;

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